

Remarks

Claims 1-6 are pending in this application. Claim 1 has been amended.

Objections to Claim 1

The Examiner has objected to Claim 1 because the first formula listed has "Mn" in subscript.

The applicant has amended Claim 1 to replace the subscripted "Mn" with the non-subscripted characters. Based on the foregoing, the Applicant respectfully requests that the objections to Claim 1 be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ohzuku et al. (US 2003/0170540) and has rejected Claims 3-5 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ohzuku et al. in view of Tanigawa et al. (US 2002/0164527). In addition, the Examiner has rejected Claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ohzuku et al. in view of Tanigawa et al. and Sun et al. (US 6,071,489).

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of Claims 1-6 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Applicants respectfully submit that Ohzuku et al. does not expressly or inherently disclose the limitations of Claim 1.

Claim 1 is amended to recite that the baffles are spaced apart from the inner wall of the reactor and have a shape of a plat panel, and the baffles are attached to the inner wall by connecting rods. Claim 1 has been amended based on Fig. 1 of this application. No new matter has been added. The Examiner has corresponded a guide for sample collection of Ohzuku et al. to the baffle of Claim 1. However, the guide for sample collection should be continuously extended from the inner wall of the reactor to guide flow of sample to the outlet. Accordingly, the guide for sample collection cannot have separated plural parts and cannot be attached to the inner wall by connecting rods. On the contrary, the baffles of Claim 1 control the wave strength and concentration and enhance turbulent effects. Therefore, it is more efficient to have a plurality of baffles of

Claim 1 which are connected to the inner wall by connecting rods to allow liquid material passing through gaps between the inner wall and the baffles.

In the reactors disclosed in Ohzuku et al., a mere simple circulation is generated and thereby, distribution of reaction material is not uniform. That is, heavy material and light material are separated from each other by centrifugal separation and respectively disposed in different position. However, in the reactor of Claim 1, turbulence generated by the baffles and reverse vane type rotary vanes prevents centrifugal separation and improves tap density of the produced hydroxide.

Based on the forgoing, Ohzuku et al. does not expressly or inherently disclose the limitations of Claim 1 and Tanigawa et al and Sun et al. can not cure the deficiency. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of Claim 1.

Because Claim 1 is the independent claim, Claims 2-6 are believed to be in condition for allowance at least because of their dependence on the amended Claim 1. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the rejection to the dependent Claims 2-6 under §103(a) be withdrawn.

No Disclaimers or Disavowals

Although this communication may include amendments to the application, and may characterize the claim scope and/or referenced art, the Applicant does not concede that previously pending claims are not patentable over the cited references. Rather, any amendments and/or characterizations are being made to facilitate expeditious prosecution of this application. The Applicant reserves the right to later pursue any previously pending or other broader or narrower claims that capture any subject matter supported by the present disclosure, including subject matter found to be specifically disclaimed herein or by any prior prosecution. Accordingly, reviewers of this or any parent, child or related prosecution history cannot reasonably infer that the Applicant has made any disclaimers or disavowals of any subject matter supported by the present disclosure.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, this application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such allowance is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference or personal interview would facilitate resolution of any remaining matters, the Examiner may contact the Applicant's attorney at the number given below.

The Commissioner is authorized (a) to charge LEXYOUME's Deposit Account No. 504054 for any fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 that are not covered, in whole or in part, by a credit card payment form submitted herewith, and (b) to credit any overpayment to said Deposit Account No. 504054.

Respectfully submitted,

/jwkim/

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